

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 00928 190953Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 A-01 EB-08 SS-15 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 0928

FOR EA HEGINBOTHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, OCON, JA
SUBJECT: REGIONAL ECONOMIC OFFICERS MEETING IN SINGAPORE

REF: STATE 11749

1. AS DEPT. IS AWARE, WE HAVE BEEN OTHERWISE OCCUPIED
AND HAVE NOT LEAPT INTO EXTENSIVE EXCHANGE OF CABLES ON
THE ATTEMPTS OF APCAC TO MATE WITH ECONOMIC OFFICERS OF
REGION.

2. NOW THAT ARRANGEMENTS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN MADE FOR
ECONOMIC OFFICERS (A) TO OBSERVE APCAC, (B) TO MEET
TOGETHER WITH APCAC, AND (C) TO MEET SEPARATELY, WE
WOULD SUBMIT SOME WORDS OF CAUTION WHICH DEPT. MIGHT
WISH TO USE IN FORMULATING SOME GUIDANCE TO ALL OUR
PARTICIPANTS IN THE VARIOUS SESSIONS. TONY GEBER IS THE
OLD HAND AT "OBSERVING" AND MASSAGING THE USG-APCAC
RELATIONSHIP AND HIS ADVICE, IN ADVANCE, SHOULD BE
USEFUL TO ALL OF US.

3. AS WE SEE IT, FROM TOKYO'S PAROCHIAL VIEW, WE HAVE
AN EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BIG AMERICAN CHAMBER
IN JAPAN. TO A VERY LARGE EXTENT ITS SUCCESS RESTS ON AN
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IMPLICIT UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT BUSINESS CAN BEST DO
ALONE, WHAT IS THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT AND WHEN AND WHERE
THE TWO CAN COLLOBORATE. WE DO NOT MUCH RELISH SITTING
AS OBSERVERS WHILE APCAC ADVISES ON FOREIGN POLICY, NOR
SHOULD THE USG, WE BELIEVE, BE EXPECTED TO RECIPROCATE
APCAC'S HOSPITALITY BY INVITING THEM TO OBSERVE OUR
DELIBERATIONS. IN OTHER WORDS, LET THERE BE SOME SPACES

IN OUR TOGETHERNESS.

4. BUTTON WILL ARRIVE IN SINGAPORE ON SATURDAY, FEB. 25
RADY TO OBSERVE APCAC ON SUNDAY AND ON MONDAY MORNING,
TO COLLABORATE IN A JOINT SESSION MONDAY AFTERNOON AND
TO DO OFFICIAL BUSINESS TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY.
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